## WASHINGTON

Fashionable Gayeties in the Capital.

THE PRESIDENT'S SECOND RECEPTION.

BRILLIANT WEDDING IN HIGH LIFE.

Mysterious Frauds on the Treasury Department.

Passage or the Consular Appropriation Bill in the Senate.

Bill in the House. Abolition of Duration Limit to the

Discussion on the Internal Revenue

Income Tax.

WARRINGTON, Feb. 3, 1869. Second Reception of the Season at the White

House. Last night, although very stormy and inclement was conspicuously brilliant among the votaries of at the White House and the Knights Templars gave merry carnival at Willard's. Up to midnight carrisges fitted hither and thither through the driving rain and snow, and the belated pedestrian as he trudged through slush heard at intervals the merry hum of voices, blended with the soft strains of instramental music. The joyousness within doors made ample amends for the tempestuous character of the night without.

At the Executive Mansion the President and his daughters held their second levce of the season. At eight o'clock the doors of the White House were pened. Owing to the unfavorable weather very crowd wai'ed under the portice to rush in as the doors awang open. Soon after eight o'clock carriages began to arrive, and the parlors gradually filled with the most distinguished and fashionable residents of the capital. As the rooms were not so densely crowded, as is generally the case at the Presidential receptions, the visitors enjoyed a greater degree of comfort. The East Room and the long halls afforded ample space for promenading—a kind of entertainment much in vogue on these

The President received his guests at the door of right, repeated the welcome. Here, as the callers file slowly through the door of the Blue Room, it is interesting to observe the greetings that pass be-tween them and the Chief Magistrate of the nation. Every condition of life is seen in the throng that presses towards the President. Each person, distin-guished or humble, whether richly and fashi onably attired or dressed in the plainest garb of poverty, receives the same hearty and sincere greeting. The humblest citizen is as graciously welcomed as the

The display of elegant dresses last evening was remarkably imposing, and the number of ladies present was greater than usual. The President was assisted in receiving by Mrs. Stover and Miss Curtin, daughter of ex-Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania. Among the visitors were Secretary and Mrs. McCulloch, Secretary Seward, Attorney General and Mrs. Evaris, Secretary Browning and daughter, and Miss O'Bannon; Secretary Welles, Senator and Mrs. Dixon and daughters, Senator and Mrs. Norton, Sonator Nye, Senator Ross, M. Cerruti, the Italian Minister; Señor Vallés, of the Spanish Legation; Mr. Baltazzi, Secretary of the Turkish Legation; Baron Gerolt, the Prussian Minister; Count Turenn and Vicomte d'Aulan, of the French Legation, and large representation of army and navy officers, with

The Rull and Reception of the Knights

The ball and reception of the Grand Knights Templars, Washington Commandery, No. 1, was held last night at Wilard's Hotel. The attendance was very large, the ladies being unusually numerous, and arrayed in dresses of style and fashion perfectly befloor were jammed with the moving mass of humanity, and it was almost impossible to make room for quadrilles or waltzes for the benefit of those fond of the "light fantastic." The dancing hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion, Heald's brass and string band occupying an elevated position in the centre and furnishing the necessary music. At half-past nine the programme of the evening was opened by the grand entrie, "Knights Templars March," played by the band; the dancing being subsequently introduced and continuing until twelve o'clock, when supper unced, and in the hall adjoining forthw all repaired and discussed the good things with which the tables were laden. J. B. Will, Eminent Commander of the Washington Commandery, occu-pted the head of the table, with the veteran B. B. French on his right, and Emanuel Corbett, of Baitt-more Commandery, No. 2, upon his left. Full and ample justice was done to the splendid banquet, at the conclusion of which dancing was resumed and kept up to the small hours.

Sensation in Fashionable Circles-Marriage of

General Comstock.

The event which the world of fashion, as represented at the national capital, has long looked forward to with expectations of great gratification, the marriage of General Cyrus B. Comstock, Engineer Officer on General Grant's staff, to Miss Elizabeth Blair, daughter of Montgomery Blair, took place this evening. The fashionable season in Washington compared favorably, as regards spirit, ectat and compared favorably, as regards spirit, eval and brilliance, with that of any of the largest and wealthi-est cities of the country. The sound of enjoy-ment is almost without intermission. Balls, parties, sofrees (musical and dansante), receptions, dinner parties, private theatricals and tableaux follow parties, private theatricals and tableaux follow each other in quick succession; but the occasion on which the beauty and fashion of this exceedingly fashionable city appears to be in the acme of their enjoyment is when a wedding occurs, as in the present instance, among the very crême de light crême of their select circles. General Cyrus B. Comstock, as before stated, is an officer of the Engineer corps United States Army, and has been a premiser of General Grant's staff from an early member of General Grant's star from an early period of the war, a position which he has filled with distinguished merit. He has hitherto resided with General Grant, and enjoys the General's fullest confidence. Miss Elizabeth Blair, the bride, is a charming young lady, and has been for some time past one of the brightest ornaments of Washington society. Miss Blair is the daughter of Montgomery Blair by his first wife, Caroline Buckner Blair.
After the death of her mother she was taken After the death of her mother she was taken into the family of her grandfather, Frank P. Blair, Sr., where she has since resided. The following are the bridesmaids selected for the bride:—First, Miss Minns Blair, the bride's stater; second, Miss M. Beck, of Kentucky, the bride's cousin; third, Miss Violet Blair, bride's cousin; fourth, Miss Ross Sands; fifth, Miss Christine D. Blair, bride's cousin and daughter of General F. P. Plair. The names of the groomsmen who officiated on the occasion are as follows:—First, General J. W. Turner, of the Subsistence Department, United States Army; second, General Adam Badeau, of General Grant's staff; fourth Adam Badeau, of General Grant's staff; fourth Colonel Charles N. Graves, Thirty-fourth infantry;

fith, Mr. William Hill Lee. Lands Granted to the Burlington and Missouri River Railrond.

submitted to the Secretary of the Interior for ap-proval Lists Nos. 48 to 56, inclusive, containing in the aggregate 91,958 acres of lands selected by the State of Iowa under acts of Congress approved May 15, 1856, and June 2, 1864, "to aid in the con-struction of the Burlington and Missouri River Rail-road." The Pacific Railroad Jobs.

The Pacific Haliroad Jobs.

The Senate Committee on Pacific Railroads held a meeting this morning to finish the details of the business which occupied their attention last evening. Senator Howard took the charge of drafting the bill and to have it ready for the meeting on Friday, when its provisions will be again discussed, and at a special session on Monday next finally determined on. The length of each of the five roads empressed in the bill as research of the five roads empressed in the bill as research as follows: Braced in the bill is, in round numbers, as follows:— Humboldt branch, 500; Shreveport, 300; Union Pacific, Eastern division, 300; Northern Pacific, 1,700; Atlantic and Pacific, 2,000—total, 4,800 miles of railway. The rate of interest on the bonds of These roads was fixed at six per cent, payable in currency, and running for thirty years. The govern-ment secures itself for the payment of the interest in the manner already stated in the HERALD of to-day. The members of the Senate from the Southern States are all in favor of the Atlantic and Pacific road on the thirty-fifth parallel and supporters generally of every legitimate railroad enterprise before Congress. They say the great necessity of the South is a railroad system. The Union Pacific line is of no earthly benefit to them, and they complain that all the powerful in-fluence of that wealthy corporation is at the bottom of this opposition to any government aid being granted to the projected lines on and below the thirty-fifth parallel. This opposition developed itself in the committee, where the interest was of the bitterest character, and the question was only decided in the end by a vote of five to four, two members being absent. Se Howard spoke strongly against the principle of the proposition, but, it is said, would have voted in its favor if the vote had been a tie, as the Northern lines and deeply concerns the interests of the State higan, from whence the Sensior halls; but the Northern Pacific would be left out in the cold if the thers had been defeated in the object of receiving government aid, as all were included in the one com nation. The bill will hardly pass this session. There is too little time left to permit its running the regular course of debate through both Houses.

The Alaska Frauds Investigation. The alleged Alaska frauds investigation was con-tinued to-day before the House Committee on Public amined at length relative to Robert J. Walker's nt as to a certain newspaper correspondent's effort to obtain a slice of the plander. Mr. Stanton confirmed all that was previously related by Mr. Walker on the subject, including the threatened kicking should the correspondent dare to make a corrupt offer to the ex-Governor and ex-Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Stanton's testimony is said to be quite spicy, showing how certain newspaper men make a business of hunting up jobs in which there is money, so as to come in for a share of it under threats of exposure if not silenced by golden con

ton's Administration.

There is considerable talk here still about the Stanton order to General Banks to relieve General Grant of his command before the capture of Vicks burg. It is understood that Benks hesitates to pub lish all he knows about the subject through delicacy. He does not relish the idea of being the instrument of showing a scandalous chapter in the secret his tory of Stanton's administration of the War Department. Some of his friends say that if should give the papers in his possession to the public he might also bring upon himself the hostility of Wendell Phillips, who hates Grant, and would pitch into Banks for not taking a step which would have prevented Grant from be ing General-in-Chief and President, Another the Stanton interest, which of course would suffer by the development of any information that the "American Carnot" really ald plot to destroy Grant as he did a dozen other generals. This is the fix in which General Banks finds himself. It is due to him curious development, all the information on the sub-ject having so far emanated from Grant's friends. It is not fair, therefore, to accuse General Banks of having let the secret out now, with a view to helping himself into Grant's Cabinet.

Removal of Political Disabilities. Thus far political disabilities have been remove

by Congress from about one hundred persons. There are three or four hundred applications now pending before the Committee on Reconstruction asking for similar favor. One-third of them are from

Shrewd Attempt to Defraud the Government. Some time since a letter was received at the office of the Treasurer of the United States from the Retions he had mailed to Richard V. Clinton, banker, at Washington, D. C., the sum of \$1,075, the writer enclosing a certificate of the Register testifying to the same. As no letter had been sent from the deconveying any such instructions the matter at once excited careful attention for the purpose of frustrating any frauds intended to be imposed upon the government; and also to secure from dishonest parties whatever amounts might have been sent in accordance with these instructions, and which, without being seen at the Treasurer's office, were at once regarded as forgeries. A package containing checks, amounting to over \$6,000, which had not been called for and addressed, as stated in the Register's letter, to the Treasurer, was found at the Post Office in this city, and measures taken which secured the government from much loss in that case. A few days later an other letter was received here from the same official, enclosing the Register's certificate of money mailed to Richard V. Clinton, amounting to over \$1,300. The amounts named in both letters were duly received at the Post Office here, and, although not immediately given, delivered to the Treasury authorities, and means were taken to prevent any loss whatever to the government. An agent of the department was made acquainted with all the facts of the case and despatched to Deerfield. After an interview with the Receiver he obtained the pretended instructions to which the Receiver alluded in his letter to the department, and which he had accepted as gentine. These were enclosed in a white envelope addressed to the Register and Receiver at Bayfield, on the right hand of which was printed, "Comptroller's office, official business." and franked with a signa-ture purporting to be that of R. W. Taylor, the First Comptroller. The forged instructions were written in a straggling hand on a sheet of foolscap, and

In a straggling hand on a sheet of foolscap, and say:—

With a view to reducing the expense of depositing the public moneys it has been ordered by the Honorable Secretary of this department that receivers of public moneys remotely situated from the depositories be instructed to forward the funds by mail. Therefore it is directed that the register and receiver will from time to time count the funds in the latter's possession, and when the same shall amount to \$1,000 and upwards they shall immediately be placed in a strong paper, wrapped and mailed to the address of Richard v. Clinton, banker, washington. The receiver will pay the postage on each package, and in his account, as disbursing agent, charge the United States the same. The register will be present when the package is mailed, and give the regular certificates in triplicate as per form herewith enclosed on similar paper and in same handwriting. The above change in the present system of placing the moneys in the hands of the United States Treasurer has been adopted for the reason that the government is now paying over three per cent on the average for every dollar deposited by receivers distant from the depositories.

To this is appended the forged signature of the First Comptroller, while there is endorsed upon the back of the letter what nursurers to be in the hands.

To this is appended the forged signature of the First Comptroller, while there is endorsed upon the back of the letter what purports to be in the handwriting of General Spinner, and a bungling attempt at copying his autograph, a statement to the effect that he had examined the within and approved the same; and also suggesting that the register and receiver be allowed compensation for their trouble. The whole matter bears evidence of having been prepared by some one who is familiar with the business of the department, though not sufficiently so to enable him to enter not sufficiently so to enable him to enter more fully into details. The checks which were received from the Post Office Department, although endorsed payable to the order of Richard V. Clinton,

miess on the transaction. When the amounts, luding United States checks, were recovered from Post Office here they were placed by the Treasurer to the credit of the receiver who had been im-posed upon. About the time the above letters were received at Washington a party named Henry W. V. Clinton was arrested at Panama, on a charge of passing forged bills of exchange, and it is surmised that he may be the same party that sent the fraudu leat instructions to the receiver. The package of checks was in the post office here some days, and it was owing to the absence of Clinton from the city that they were recovered by the government.

Recusant Witnesses Before the House. The sensation in the House to-day was the prod tion by the Sergeant-at-Arms of the two recusant es-Florence Scannel and Henry Johnson arrested on charge of contempt of the authority of the House in refusing to testify before the Election rested under a warrant from the Speaker since the to testify before Butier's committee. Scannel is man, and answered the Speaker's interrogatories with an air redolent of the Bowery boy as seen on the stage. Johnson was less bold, and indeed, doubtless somewhat frightened; but still he bore himself with remarkable composure consider ing the noise and confusion all around him. Both vitnesses are in the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms and will remain there until they appear before the committee to-morrow. For the present they are confined in one of the comfortable committee rooms

General Butler has extended cards for a fashion-able party to be given at his residence on Tuesday

Post Office Contracts Award. Posimaster General Randall has made awards on proposals submitted under advertisement to supply the department for the ensuing year at the following rates:-Letter balances, \$4 for the large ones and 70 cents for the small size; from 1,200 to 1,500 may be required. Eighteen thousand reams of wrapping paper, 22 pounds to the ream, \$2 15 per reim; for the large sized paper, 55 pounds to the roam, \$5.45 per ream. One hundred and twenty trousand pounds of cotton twine, 33 cents per pound. Twenty-five thousands pounds coarse temp twine, 20 cents per pound,

Railroad Land Bounties The Secretary of the Interior, in reply to a resolu ion of the Senate, says the aggregated quantity of lands certified under existing laws for railroads and agon roads to States, Territories and corporations up to January 30, 1867, is 21,561,000 acres, and for canals nearly 4,500,000 acres. The quantity certified to the following named States since that date is as

Minnesota, for railroads.

Cairfornia, for railroads.

Wisconsin, for wagon roads.

Oregon, for wagon roads.

Michigan, for canais.

Making a grand total of 27,000,000 acres

General Hancock and the Politicians. General Hancock and the Politicians.

In reference to the statements which have appeared in the papers during the last few days to the effect that General Hancock's name has been mentioned by a portion of the press of Pennsylnext election, it may be stated that it has been here for several months that General Hancock has persistently refused to become a candidate for that office or to interfere with the local politics of his State so long as he may remain in

An order has been issued from the War Depart-ient summoning a number of general officers of the army to come to this city for the purpose of pre-Affairs in regard to the proposed consolidation of army staff bureaus. The nature of the business on which their presence is required is intimated to them in the order, that they may come prepared for exam ination. It is understood from very good authority that General Grant favors a material reduction in the number of officers in the different bureaus rather than the consolidation of those bureaus.

Supreme Court Proceedings.

In the Supreme Court of the United States to-day the following causes were argued:-Nos. 65 and 66. Cases of the steamer Stren .- Argu-

Nos. 65 and 66. Cuses of the ment concluded.
No. 67. Pierce et al. vs. Brown.—Proceeding in equity to obtain a decree declaring void a deed to certain lands in Neoraska. Case submitted.
No. 68. The City of New Orleans vs. The New York Mail Steamship Company.—Case continued to next

No. 70. Butler vs. Crowitz.—Case in equity con-erning title to certain lands in Maryland. Cause submitted.

No. 71. Litchfield vs. Dubuque and Pacific Rail-road Company.—Action for the recovery of real property in Iowa. Submitted by plaintin in error and argued on the part of detendants.

It is said to be probable that the docket will be

called as high as No. 100 within the next two weeks.

General Grant on Impartial Suffrage.

(Washington (Feb. 2) correspondence of the Boston Advertiser.)

General Grant in conversation this morning took square ground in layor of the principle of impartial suffrage. He seemed to have some doubt about the power of Congress to regulate suffrage by law, but said that there could be no sound objection to submitting a constitutional amendment to the people. He spoke of the one passed by the House on Saturday as embodying the right lies, but expressed no opinion on the language therein chosen. He said explicitly that the principle of impartial suffrage is right in itself, and added that as we have through the reconstruction acts imposed negro suffrage on the Southern States it is only fair that the Northern States should give the ballot to their own colored citizens. He thought the question at issue had better be disposed of as soon as possible, so as to take a disturbing element out of our affairs, and indicated a hope that the amendment would be passed by Congress before the end of the present session.

## THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

Third Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3, 1869. NEW YORK AND ANTWERP STRAMSHIP COMPANY. Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a memo rial of the New York and Antwerp Steamship Com pany.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., presented a petition of citizens of Lexington, Ohio, in favor of woman suffrage. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. Morrilla, (rep.) of Me., from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill providing for the payment of salaries of employes in the Patent Office for January and Pebruary, and moved its immediate

payment of santite stage, and moved its immediate consideration.

Mr. Fessender, (rep.) of Me., objected.

Mr. Ross, (rep.) of Kansas, introduced a bill to encourage the growth of forest trees. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Conskinso introduced a bill to encourage the building of steamships in the United States. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

The bill provides that all steamships heretofore built and registered in the United States, or which may be built in the United States or which may be built in the United States within five years, shall be released from the payment of all dues and taxes to the United States so long as they are employed in transporting the United States mails at a compensation not exceeding the amount of ocean and inland postages, and exempts all material used in their construction or equipment from payment of duties and taxes to the United States.

Mr. Williams, (rep.) of Oregon, introduced a bill for the relief of infabitants of cities and towns in New Mexico, Arizona and Utah. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

AMENDMENTS TO THE JUDICIAMY SYSTEM.

Mr. TRUBBLIL, (rep.) of Ill., from the Committee on the Judiciary system of the United States. As amended in the committee it reads as follows:—

Be it enacted, &c., That the Supreme Court of the United States shall be read to the circuit states of the states and eight associate justices, any six of whom shall constitute a quorum; and for lits purpose there shall be need by the Justice of the Supreme Court alcotted to the circuit the circuit states of the supreme Court alcotted to the circuit the circuit states of the supreme Court alcotted to the circuit of the direct states as the states and more than one such court may be held at the same time in the same t

IND YEAR.

BILLS REPORTED FROM THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

Mr. TRUMBULL, from the Judiciary committee, reported favorably a bill to provide for the execution of judgmens in capital cases published January 12), and adversey on a number of bills relating to the judicial system and practice; among them Mr. Wilson's to regganize the Supreme Court by Increasing the number of justices to fourteen and changing the Judicial circuits, and Mr. Morton's to conform the Foles if practice and pleading in the United States Courts to the laws of the respective States, and the Heuse bill to amend the act creating the Eastern Judicial District of New York.

Bildging the primary expenses and the Bildging the Property States, and the Heuse bill to amend the act creating the Eastern Judicial District of New York.

Eastern Judicial District of New York.

BIDGING THE DELAWARE RIVER.

Mr. CHARDLER, (rep.) of Mich., from the Committee on Coumerce, reported, with an amendment, the bill gring the consent of the United States to the crecipit of a bridge across the Delaware, between Canded and Philadelphia.

SLE OF GOVERNMENT ARRENALS.

Mr. WIISON, (rep.) of Mass., from the Military Committee reported, with no amendment, the bill amendatory of the act providing for the sale of the arsensi grunds at St. Louis and Liberty, Mo.

Mr. Harren, (rep.) of N. C., introduced a joint resolution proposing the following amendment to the constitution:

ABTICLE 5. The right of citizens of the United State

Cety appropriate legisation.

10 WA INDIAN WAR CLAIMS.

Mr. GRIEES, (rep.) of lowa, offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to furnish a first of ciains and claimants for compensation for comprehences committed by the Indians in North-Western Inwa during 1851 and since. Adopted.

PATHENT OF MESSENGINS AND CLAIMS.

Mr. RAINELY, (rep.) of Minim., offered a resolution providing for the payment of messengers, clerks, etc., employed by the Senate for the recess from 1 diy to December last.

RELIEF OF MARGARET HALL.

On motion of Mr. HENDRICKS, (dem.) of Ind., the Senate took up the bill for the recise of Margaret Hall, which was discussed until the expiration of the morning hour. the senate then resumed the consideration of the

The Senaic then resumed the consideration of the CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC APPROPRIATION BILL. Mr. HUCKALEW, (dem.) of Pa., renewed his motion to strike out the appropriation of \$2.500 to carry into effect the treaty for the suppression of the African slave trade, and advocated it briefly. He thought the Senate had made these appropriations for nothing long enough.

Mr. PATTELSON, (rep.) of N. H., also favored the motion. He had ascertained, since the depart of yesterday, that it was not all true that the United states ever kept a facet on the coast of Africa for the enforcement of this treaty, but only occasionally sent a vessel or two down there from the European squadron.

Mr. Morrill, of Me., restated his view of the ob-Mr. Mocketts, of Mes., moved to add to gations of the treaty. Mr. Doolitrie, (dem.) of Wis., moved to add to se clause making the appropriation the follow-

Ing:—
Provided, further, that no part of the money hereby appropriated small be ensure from the Treasury unless the President of the United States shall, on application to the government of Great Britain, become satisfied that such government objects to the discontinuance of the mixel courts provided for by the treaty before the time fixed for their termination by such treaty.

ment objects to the assemblacance of the mixed courts provised for by the treaty before the time faced for their termination by such treaty.

Mr. SUMNER again eloquently urged the Senate to stand by the treaty, or, if the time had come for its termination, to terminate it in the regular way. He would remind the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. Patterson) that before the treaty New York was a mere den of sinve traders, and in conclusion repeated the expression of his profound regret that any Senator spould be found ready and wilting to strike down a treaty made for so glorious an object.

Mr. Patterson, on N. H.—If the Senator from Massachusets had not treated us to another feast of emply ecquence, I certainly would not speak again on the subject; but that Senator persists in stignatizing me as seeking to strike down a treaty which keeps the African siave trade off the Sea. That is an entire misrepresentation of my purpose, and he must not expect me to sit here quietly and be abused and calumniated by ham or any other Senator in this hal. I care not what his position is, it does not justify him in such a course, and I will not patiently endure it. Calling names settles nothing. Why, sir, I might select a Senator here and casi him the most patient of animals with a parcel of books on his shoulder, deeming himself the national divinity, but that would not make him so. My object in offering this amendment is to save to the government twelve thousand dollars a year. We have already paid out over one hundred thousand dollars for the support of these courts, which have accomplished absolutely nothing for the suppression of the save trade or any other object, as I know from a member of the court. The slave trade because I have and i nonor all the instrumentalities by which that great consummation was secured. I know the that great consummation was secured. I know the that great consummation was secured. I know the dead, and i nonor all the instrumentalities by which that great consummation was secured. I know the that g

art. HENDRICAS said that the senator rom mas-sachusetts still insisted that this appropriation wa for the suppression of the slave trade; that was he capital in the discussion, but the matter really ha-nothing to do with the suppression of the slav-trade. The question before the Senate was simply whether certain gentlemen should be supported ou of the people's money without doing anything to earn it.

earn it.

Mr. N. Whyte, (dem.) of Me., said that he had been opposed to the treaty when it was first suggested, because he was opposed to allowing foreign vessels to board American vessels under any circumstances; but the treaty being made was binding, and should be carried out until terminated or changed. He then moved an amendment requesting the president to moved an amendment requesting the rrestuent to ask Great Britain to put an end to that part of the treaty which requires each government to keep up mixed courts, and providing that it that government consent the salaries of the officers of the United States connected with said courts shall cease.

This was adopted as an amendment to the proposition of Mr. Doolittle, which, so amended, was agreed

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The Senate then voted on the motion of Mr. Bucka-ew to strike out from the bill the paragraph as mended, which was lost by a vote of 13 yeas and 37

Mr. Patterson, of N. H., offered an amendment

Mr. PATTERSON, of N. H., offered an amendment providing that in collecting consular fees foreign moneys shall be taken at the rates provided in the Treasury schedule. Adopted.

Mr. SCHNEIR, from the committee on Foreign Reations, offered amendments—one increasing the many of the Minister Resident at the Argentine republic of collections of his appointment also to the republic of Uruguay, and another appropriating \$1,000 for the repair of the Protestant cemetery of Acapulco.

mary of the similar resident at the Argentine republic occurse of his appointment also to the repubic of Uruguay, and another appropriating \$1,000 for
the repair of the Protestant cemetery of Acaphico,
Adopted.

Mr. Ramsey moved an amendment to send a consul to Winnipeg, Seikirk settlement. Adopted.

Mr. Pomerov, (rep.) of Kan., moved to add an addittonal section, provided that all consuls and consular agents who are neither nauve nor naturalized
citizens shalt be dismissed within thirry days after
the passage of this act. It was lost.

The bill was then passed.

Mr. WILLIAMS rose to a question of privilege and
called attention to a statement made yesterday by a
member of the House to show the absording of the
Tenure of Office act, to wit:—That the postmaster
at Portland, Oregon, was in prison for speculation,
yet the President could not remove him, because it
did not suit the Senate to allow his removal. This
statement, Mr. Williams said, was untrue in every
particular, the postmaster in question having been
removed, tried and convicted, and his successor
having been nominated and confirmed promptly.

Mr. Grimes thought this an opportune time to ask
the Senator (Mr. Williams) when the committee
would report the bill to repeal the Tenure of Office
law which had been referred to it.

The President could not remove him,
it is no part of the business
before the Senate.

Mr. Grimes—then I give notice that if that committee does not bring it up before the Senate I shalt
call it up at an early day.

Mr. Williams and he was not the chairman of
the committee, but he believed that gentleman would
call up the bill as soon as he could have an opportunity.

CONSIDERATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMEND-

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Mr. STEWART, (rep.) of New., moved to take up the pending constitutional amendment.

Mr. SHERMAR, (rep.) of Ohio, moved to take up the Currency bill.

Mr. MORTON, (rep.) of Ind., was in favor of taking up the amendment because if it were to be acced upon by the State Legislatures this winter the action of Congress upon it could not be longer delayed.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Vi., preferred to take up the Pinance bill. The need for action in that direction was pressing, and the time in which it could be had at this session was very brief.

Mr. Dranks, (rep.) of Mo., thought the pending financial question of very little importance compared with the constitutional amendment establishing the rights of man. Besides the amendment required a two-thirds vote, and there might not be such a vote in favor of it is the next flouse of Representatives.

The Senate then voted to take up the constitutional amendment—yeas 35, nays 20.

Mr. SHERMAN moved to postpone it temporarily, and take up the Currency bill. Curred.

Mr. SHERMAN then moved to postpone the Currency bill until to-morrow. Carried.

On motion of Mr. STEWART the Senate resumed the consideration of the constitutional amendment as passed by the House.

Mr. SHEWARE moved to amend by striking out the first section and substituting that reported by the Senate judiciary Committee:

The right of citizens of the United States to vote and hold office shall not be denied or Borieged by the United States or "Citizens" Mr. MILLIAMS moved to insert before "Citizens"

one such court may be held at the same time in the same district. The circuit judges shall each receive an annual salary of \$5,00.

Sets. 5. That nothing in this act shall affect the powers of the justices of the Supreme Court as Judges of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the elevant court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, when in each circuit shall be appointed by the circuit court, when in cach circuit shall be appointed by the circuit court, when in cach circuit shall be appointed by the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court, except in the appointment of cierks of the circuit court.

er, but Mr. Williams did not accept the

have the same right to vote and hold office as other citizens.

Mr. CORBETT, (rep.) of Oregon, moved to add;—
But Chinamen not born in the United States and Indians
bot tared shall not be deemed as made citizens.

These and other amendments offered were ordered
to be printed.

Mr. FRIREY, (rep.) of Conn., being entitled to the
floor on the amendment, moved to adjourn, and so
at half-past four the Senste adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Washington, Feb. 3, 1869. ELECTION IN MISSISSIPPI.

Mr. Beck, (dem.) of Ky., introduced a bill provid-ing for the holding of an election in Mississippi. Re-ferred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT STATIONERY CONTRACT. Mr. ELA. (rep.) of N. H., from the Committee on Printing, reported a joint resolution in relation to the stationery contract of the Interior Department with Dempsey & O'Toole. It directs the Secretary of the Interior not to receive or make payment for 500,000 sheets of bond paper, claimed to have been ordered at \$24,000; to withhold the payment of \$2,380 for printing 17,000 patent heads, the work not have now been preferred. Also to withhold the value of ing been performed. Also, to withhold the value of 40,900 sheets of bond paper, at eight cents per sheet, now in the custody of the contractors. Also, to de duct from their unpaid bill the amount charged for goods not included in the contract, above the ordi-

duct from their unpaid bill the amount charged for goods not included in the contract, above the ordinary market price.

Air. El.A made a brief explanation of the objects of and the reasons for the joint resolution.

Mr. LALLIN, (rep.) of N. Y., commended the industry, assaidity and regard for the public interests manifested by Mr. Els in the prosecution of the investigation. The language of the report indicated a fair, liberal spirit towards all the parties involved in the matter. The result of the investigation showed on the part of the onlicers of the literior Department either gross supplicity, gross carlessness, or gross crimanality.

the matter. The result of the investigation showed on the part of the onicers of the interior Department either gross scapidity, gross carlessness, or gross crimmality.

Mr. Miller, (rep.) of Pa., inquired whether these features in the interior Department took place under the present incumbent?

Mr. Lapidin replied that there was nothing in the testimony taken before the committee that redected on the integrity or capacity of the secretary of the interior. He had been misled by the advice of his subordinates in whom he had confidence. He went on to show the delective and cheating principle on which the contract had been awarded, instancing the case of bond paper, which was contracted for at eight cents a sheer, whereas a fair profit would have accred at two cents a sneet.

Mr. MAYNARD, (rep.) of Tenn., asked Mr. Laffin whether the contract system was not defective and it could not be changed.

Mr. Lapidin replied that, in the opinion of the Committee on Printing, the whole contract system, as connected with stationery in all the departments, was wrong in principle and wrong in execution. The committee had prepared and would soon report a bill changing the whole system of placing the supply of stationery under the same law and regulations as the supply of public printing. In the course of his remarks he made some reflections upon the Acting Commissioner of Patents (Mr. Stout), intimating that from certain facts which he stated there must have been some understanding between Mr. Stout and the contractors.

Mr. Cake. (rep.) of Pa. (another member of the committee), remarked that he was not so tender about the secretary of the interior as the chairman of the committee seemed to be. He did not think the Secretary's skirts were so clear, nor did he coincide in throwing the blame on Mr. Stout, who was only two months in the position of Acting Commissioner of Patents. He believed that if the investigation had been carried through other departments similar frauds would have been discovered.

Mr. Stevens-Then how can he

the responsibility for these maised by cunning subordinates.

Mr. Covode, (rep.) of Pa., remarked that it was evident a high crime had been perpetrated. He wanted to know who was the criment for paper that should only cost \$6,000 the government had paid \$24,000. Each member of the committee seemed to be defending some one against the charge, and the House was not informed who the high criminal was. After further discussion the joint resolution was passed without a division.

Mr. Ela, from the same committee, reported a bill to provide stationery for Congress and the several departments. The bill provides that the heads of each of the Executive and Judichal departments at washington and the Secretary of the Senate and the Cierk of the House shall have estimales made quarterly, and at each succeeding session of Congress, of the stationery required for the year, and that the same is to be supplied by the Congressional Printer under contract. The bill was passed.

PERVENSES WITNESSES.

The Sergeant-at-Arms at two o'clock appeared before the bar of the House, having in custody Fiorence Scannel, of New York, under a warrant issued by the Speaker for contempt of the House in Pransing to answer questions put to him by the Select Committee on the New York Election Prands.

Mr. Lawrence, (rep.) of Obio, Chairman of the Select Committee, offered the usual resolution, directing the Speaker to ask the witness as to what excuse he had to offer for refusing to answer the questions of the committee, and as to whether he was now ready to appear before the committee and answer.

After some discussion between Messre, Lawrence,

answer.

After some discussion between Messrs. LAWRENCS, WOOD and ROBINSON the resolution was adopted, and the Speaker, addressing Mr. Florence Scannel, put to him the two questions embodied in the resolution.

lution.

Ar. Scannel, who was quite sell-possessed throughout the scene, replied that he had no reason for refusing to answer, except that he had given to the gentieman whose name the committee had required him to divulge a promise that he would not mention it. He had, however, conferred with him since then, and the gentieman was willing his name should be given. Consequently, he (Mr. Scannel) was ready to appear before the committee and answer the question.

Mr. Scannel was then remitted to custody until he should be examined by the committee.

thould be examined by the committee.

The Sergeant-at-Arms again appeared at the bar with another recusant witness from New York, ienry Johnson, in regard to whom similar proceedings were had.

Mr. Scannel was then remitted to custody until he should be examined by the committee.

The Sergeant-at-Arms again appeared at the bar with another recusant witness from New York, Henry Johnson, in regard to whom similar proceedings were had.

The Speaker stated that he had received a leiter addressed to him as Speaker from this witness, stating, first, that he had presented himself at the place designated by the officer was not present; second, that his pecuniary means had prevented him from coming to Washington to obey the subpoena of the committee. This letter, the Speaker added, he had presented to the chairman of the committee.

The witness, Henry Johnson, in reply to the two questions put to him by the Speaker, as directed by the resolution, said:—"I have never refused or neglected to obey the summons of the committee, and I am ready to answer any questions that may now be put to me."

Mr. Lawrence, of Ohio, moved that the witness remain in custody until he should one examined by the committee.

A lively discussion arose between Messrs, Lawrence, Wood, Rominson and others, contending that the witness had purged himself of coatempt and should be discharged from custody.

In the course of the discussion Mr. Rominson, I mer with the weaker presented is the best example of the tyranneal course which men will pursue when dressed in a little brief authority.

The Speaker, interrupting, said he doubted whether those remarks were parliamentary.

Mr. Rominson—I have made no reference to any member of the House.

Mr. Hydra and present the activity of the transaction before the House, which was the resolution on the New York that he had not applied the words to be taken down.

The words having been written out by the reporter and read by the clerk, the Speaker fulled that the words were not parliamentary, the House test faving ordered the investigation and having also ordered the arrest for apparent contempt of an authority. In reference to the remark of the gentleman from New York that he had not applied the words

manners at ocase to market are all the manners are the free analyzation of the river.

He spoke in support of his smendment.
Mr. Starkwearhers. (rep.) of Conn., addressed the House in opposition to it.
The amendment was rejected—yeas 60, nays 88.
On motion of Mr. Kern, (dem.) of Ind., the second section was amended so as to require the bridge to be built in accordance with the requirements of the second section of the resolution of the General Assembly, and the bill thus amended was passed.
Mr. Wilson, (rep.) of Ohio, from the same committee, reported a bill giving the consent of Con

passed without discussion.

THE AIR LINE RAILROAD.

Mr. Cook, free, lof Ill., from the same come repreted back the bill to authorize the build a military and postal railroad from Washingto New York, and proceeded to address the He

reported back the bill to authorize the building of a military and postal railroad from Washington and New York, and proceeded to address the House in support of it.

Mr. Cook said he presumed that it would be admitted by every one that the proposed railroad would be of very great advantage to the government and the public. When the capital was invaded, not long since, it was seen how utterly inefficient for the transport of troops and munitions of war the single road now existing was. It could not be successfully denied that the construction of an air line road from Washington to New York would be as legitimate an exercise of power to provide for the common defence as the casting of cannon ar the establishment of magazines. The proposed road was necessary in order to secure the transmission of the mails. It was in the power of the man agers of the existing line of road to cut off all postal communication between Washington and New York. The proposed road was also necessary to relieve commerce from the burdens imposed upon it by State legislation. The State of Maryland required one-fifth of the amount received for transportation through the State to be paid into its treasury, being now thirty certs for each passenger between Baitimore and Washington; so the State of New Jersey required the payment of ten cents per passenger and diffeen cents per ton of merchandise carriedby railroad through that State. He alluded to the fact, also, that within a few months past persons passing along the existing route had been violently assailed for their political views, and beaten and outraged. He then went on to argue the constitutionality of the measure. He did not see how any distinction could be made between the power to wide and deepen a river for the benefit of commerce and the powers to construct a railroad for the same purpose. The end sought in either case was the same; the exercise of power was the same. If Congress might deepen Lake St. Chair in might constitution if the interests of cummerce could be thereby bette

that the road could and would be built if the bill became a isw, and that a speedier, cheaper and better communication would be established between Washington and New York.

The morning hour expired at a quarter past three, and the bill went over till to-morrow.

WESTERN MILITARY CLAIMS.

Mr. SPALDING, (rep.) of Onio, from the Conference Committee on the Joint resolution providing for the disposition of certain papers relating to military claims accruing in the Department of the West, reported that the committee had been unable to agree, then moved that the Senate amendment to the Joint resolution be agreed to.

UNIFORM SYSTEM OF NATURALIZATION.

Mr. POLAND, (rep.) of VL, introduced a bill providing for a uniform system of naturalization, which was referred to the Committee on Revision of Laws. The bill proposes to admit aliens to cinzenship after a continuous residence in the United States for four years and six months. Proceedings for naturalization are to be restricted to the circuit courts and district courts of the United States, and the courts of highest justication in each State and Territory which hold stated sessions in each country for the trial of civil causes. It requires a notice of intention to be filed and sworn to one year and six months before application, stating age, residence and occupation, &c. SPEANBHIPS OWNED IN LOYAL STATES.

Mr. PILE, (rep.) of Mo., introduced a joint resolution relating to steamships and other boats owned in the loyal States, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Committee.

The House, at half-past three o'clock, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Wilson, of fows, in the chair, on the Indian Appropriation bill and on a bill appropriating \$10,000 for the Yankton Stoux tribe.

tribe.

After disposing of them the committee rose and reported them to the House. Before acting upon them the House, at hall-past four o'clock, took a recess till half-past seven this evening, the session to be confined exclusively to the internal Revenue bill.

Evening Session.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE BILL.

The House resumed its session at half-past seven, in Committee of the Whole, Mr. Scoffield in the chair, and proceeded with the consideration of the Internal Revenue bill, taking it up at section 23t, taxing gas at the rate of ten cents per 1,000 cubic feet. No amendment was made to the section.

The next section, imposing five per cent income tax, was amended, on motion of Mr. Schener, by exempting military and naval pensions.

Mr. Holman, (dem.) of Ind., moved to impose a tax of ten per cent on the interest accruing from United States bonds.

Mr. Schener made the point of order that the amendment was proposing a specific tax on a particular species of property.

The Chanman sustained the point of order, and the amendment was ruled out.

Mr. Petens, (rep.) of Mc., moved to amend the section by reducing the taxes on incomes on the first thousand dollars above a thousand dollars. He said that it was one of the hardest taxes on the calendar.

Mr. Schener,—To collect?

Mr. Patens,—Hardest to pay. I know that the income tax is not very severely collected, which is in itself an evidence of its hardship.

Mr. Schener of its hardship.

key and too acco trauds, forgetting that they the selves cheated the government by lying returns income. There had been as much fraud proportion at the latest on the latest on the latest of the late

expired by its own limitation at the end of the year 1809.

Mr. Perens—It will be renewed.

Mr. Schenck—It may be or it may not be. His own impression was that instead of the gloomy yiew presented last night by Mr. Niblack it will be found that the receipts from customs and internal taxes the next fiscal year will run over four hundred millions of dollars, leaving a handsome margin, after the payment of all ordinary expenses and the interest on the public debt, towards the gradual extinguishment of the public debt. There is probably no tax which causes less distress or is fet less as a burden on the community at large than the income tax.

guishment of the photo door.

In a mendment offered by Mr. Peters was rejected.

Mr. Getz. (dem.) of Pa., moved to strike out the whole section. He was willing to act now on the hope expressed by the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. They had been promised wholesale retrenchment and reform under the next administration, and if those promises were carried out the income tax might certainty be dispensed with. If it should be found that the government could not get along without the moome tax it might be renewed.

Mr. Allison, (rep.) of lows, moved to amend the section by striking out that part of it which limits the duration of the income tax to the year ISTO. He hoped that the tax might be dispensed with, but he did not wish to have any implied promise on the subject, desiring to leave the whole subject of taxation open. His own judgment was that before entirely dispensing with the income tax they ought to reduce the percentage gradually—perhaps to two or three per cent next year, and afterwards to one per cent. He did not believe in striking out at a single bound a tax of thirty or forty millions.

Mr. Wood, (dem.) of N. Y., expressed his regret that the exemption of \$1,000 was not increased to \$2,000. It bore hard on the industrious classes of the people, whose income was barely sufficient to enable them to live. They should be relieved from such an unjust burden. He was against any income tax whatever. It was contrary to the spirit of American institutions. It enabled the officers of the government to interfere with certain domestic private individual rights that had been by all nations exempt from efficial interference.

The amendment offered by Mr. Allison was agreed to.

The amendment offered by Mr. Allison was agreed to.

Mr. Gerz then withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Woop moved to reduce the tax to three per cent. He sait he did so in good faith, believing it would produce a larger revenue.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. HOLMAN moved to insert a new section, taxing the interest on United States bonds ten per cent. He reminded the House that at the last session, by a large majority, the House had, on motion of Mr. Cobb, pledged tiself to that principle.

Mr. Schenck suggested that the House of Representatives was a mighty uncertain body, and that that vote had been given on the eve of a general election.

that vote had been given on the eve of a general election.

Mr. Holman expressed his surprise that the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means would find a partisan explanation for the action of the House.

Mr Schener argued against the unfairness and bad faith implied in the proposition, and attributed to the democratic party the odium of naving got up the attempt to violate the national faith.

Mr. Broomall, (rep.) of Pa., also argued against

Mr. Broomall, (rep.) of Pa., also argued against the proposition.

Mr. Stevens, of N. H., repudiated the explanation given by Mr. Schenck of the vote of last session in favor of taxing united States bonds, it implied that the vote was given for a partisan purpose and uniter the pressure of political induence. For himself he had given his vote on that occasion in favor of that proposition under instruction of the republican party of New Hampshire.

Mr. Schenck—Then you did it against your own indement.

judgment.

Mr. BENJAMIN, (rep.) of Mo., said that the people had discussed and passed upon the question, declaring that justice should be done to the public credit-

CONTINUED ON TENTH PAGE